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Agenda item 94

Sustainable development and international economic cooperation

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Mr. Ahmed **Amaziane** (Morocco)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 94 (see A/55/581, para. 2). Action on the item as a whole was taken at the 17th and 34th plenary meetings, on 19 October and 15 November. An account of the Committee's consideration of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/55/SR.17 and 34).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.2/55/L.5

2. At the 17th meeting, on 19 October, the representative of Kyrgyzstan, on behalf of Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bhutan, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guyana, Haiti, Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, the Netherlands, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, the Russian Federation, Rwanda, San Marino, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, the Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, the United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan,

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Viet Nam and Zambia, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Status of preparation for the International Year of Mountains, 2002" (A/C.2/55/L.5). Subsequently, Belgium, Bolivia, Cape Verde, Ethiopia, Gabon, Guatemala, Honduras, Iceland, Jamaica, Kenya, Luxembourg, Morocco and South Africa joined in sponsoring the draft resolution, which read:

"*The General Assembly,*

"*Recalling* its resolution 53/24 of 10 November 1998 on the International Year of Mountains, 2002,

"*Also recalling* the relevant provisions of Agenda 21, particularly chapter 13 concerning mountain ecosystems and their conservation and sustainable development,

"*Further recalling* Economic and Social Council resolutions 1997/45 of 22 July 1997 and 1998/30 of 29 July 1998,

"*Recalling* the report of the Secretary-General on coordination, programme and other questions: proclamation of an international year of mountains,

"*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the status of preparations for the International Year of Mountains, 2002,

"*Noting with appreciation* the work already undertaken to achieve sustainable mountain development by States, organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and non-governmental organizations,

"1. *Welcomes* the activities undertaken by States, United Nations organizations, in particular the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and non-governmental organizations in preparation for the observance of the International Year of Mountains, and encourages them to continue their efforts;

"2. *Encourages* all States, the United Nations system and all other actors to take advantage of the International Year of Mountains to ensure the present and future well-being of mountain communities by promoting conservation and sustainable development in mountain areas; to increase awareness and knowledge of mountain ecosystems, their dynamics and functioning, and their overriding importance in providing a number of crucial goods and services essential to the well-being of both rural and urban, highland and lowland people, in particular water supply and food security; and to promote and defend the cultural heritage of mountain communities and societies;

"3. *Encourages* States and relevant United Nations funds and programmes, specialized agencies, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to support local, national and international programmes and projects for the International Year of Mountains, inter alia, through voluntary financial contributions;

"4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session an interim report on the activities of the International Year of Mountains and to report to the Assembly at its fifty-

eighth session on the outcome of the Year and the further implementation of efforts to achieve sustainable mountain development, taking into account any relevant decisions adopted during the ten-year review of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 2002."

3. At the 34th meeting, on 15 November, the representative of Kyrgyzstan orally revised the draft resolution on the basis of informal consultations.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/55/L.5 as orally revised (see para. 5).

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

5. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Status of preparation for the International Year of Mountains, 2002

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/24 of 10 November 1998 on the International Year of Mountains, 2002,

Also recalling the relevant provisions of Agenda 21,[1] particularly chapter 13 concerning mountain ecosystems and their conservation and sustainable development,

Further recalling Economic and Social Council resolutions 1997/45 of 22 July 1997 and 1998/30 of 29 July 1998,

Recalling the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Coordination, programme and other questions: proclamation of an international year of mountains",[2]

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the status of preparations for the International Year of Mountains, 2002,[3]

Noting with appreciation the work already undertaken to achieve sustainable mountain development by States, organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and non-governmental organizations,[4]

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[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[2] E/1998/68.

[3] A/55/218.

[4] See E/1998/80 and A/54/767.

1. *Welcomes* the activities undertaken by States, United Nations organizations, in particular the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and non-governmental organizations in preparation for the observance of the International Year of Mountains, and encourages them to continue their efforts;

2. *Encourages* all States, the United Nations system and all other actors to take advantage of the International Year of Mountains to ensure the present and future well-being of mountain communities by promoting conservation and sustainable development in mountain areas; to increase awareness and knowledge of mountain ecosystems, their dynamics and functioning, and their overriding importance in providing a number of crucial goods and services essential to the well-being of both rural and urban, highland and lowland people, in particular water supply, food security; and to promote and defend the cultural heritage of mountain communities and societies;

3. *Encourages* States and relevant United Nations funds and programmes, specialized agencies, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to support local, national and international programmes and projects for the International Year of Mountains, inter alia, through voluntary financial contributions;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session an interim report on the activities of the International Year of Mountains and to report to the Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the outcome of the Year and the further implementation of efforts to achieve sustainable mountain development, taking into account any relevant decisions adopted during the ten-year review of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 2002.